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イラスト：冬川 基

Chapter 1: My Little Sister Can't Cooperate with a Railgun

Since this might be the first time some of you are meeting me, allow me to introduce myself. I'm Kousaka Kyousuke, a very ordinary high school student. Just now, if that introduction sounded familiar, please check out 'My Little Sister Can't Be This Cute' published by Dengeki Bunko.

Since the introduction is finished, let's move on to the main topic.

One day as usual, I came back home and saw my little sister talking on the phone while sitting on the sofa.

"Ah! Really! Sure, I'd love to!"

Sounded like she was talking about her work.

My little sister's name was Kousaka Kirino, she was working as a model, and her picture was on the cover of many magazines. Recently, starting with Chiba Monorail and Chiba Mazda, she had signed contracts with a variety of companies, so sometimes I saw her pictures on the street—so amazing! I really was impressed with her.

Truly, that was what I thought.

"Good, no problem. Then let's talk more about it the next time we meet!"

Kirino turned off her cell phone and laughed "A, hahaha...hahaha...~"

She looked very relaxed and slovenly.

—*Somehow, this girl suddenly made me feel annoyed*.

"What's up?"

"Ah? Ah, you are back."

"I just came back."

"Hm~ph."

Kirino showed me an arrogant look.

Well, that was normal, however—

"He...ehehehe."

She was drooling while texting, which looked quite disgusting.

"...Was the release date of new eroge decided?"

"Ha? Wrong wrong ~ Hmph ~ hmph~, what's wrong? Are you curious?"

Not exactly curious, it would be more accurate to say that I was wondering if your head was okay. But we would quarrel again if I said so, so I asked—

"Something like that. So tell me."

"Oh! ~ What should I do ~ You want to know that much ~"

...For an elder brother, it was very hard to endure, thus I wanted nothing more than to leave her and go back to my room.

"If you don't want to tell me then it's fine."

"Hey hey, I never said that! Why did you give up so easily! Shouldn't you be more patient?"

Seeing that I was about to give up, she quickly called me back.

This girl...if you wanted to boast about it so much, then don't act so superior. Just say it.

"...Tch, forget it. Although I don't like your attitude, consider this a special

service, I will tell you."

"Alright alright alright, thank you very much."

We sat down on the sofa, each of us took a side, with an empty space in the middle.

"So, since it's not about new eroge, did you get a new job?"

"Yes! Like that! Look look, this time it's so amazing!"

"Ah ~ if you say so, then it must be very amazing."

"Hohehehehe...yes yes!"

Kirino moved closer and happily showed me the picture on her cell phone.

"Tada! My Little Sister X Railgun Collaboration Project! 'A Certain Crossover Girls' Talk.' I'm gonna have a girls' talk with Mikoto-san at Nico Anime! How is that! Awesome! So amazing!"

"Er? That..."

"Ha? What is with your ultra-low reaction?"

Well—

"What's Nico Anime? Who is Mikoto? Some kind of idol or something?"

"Totally wrong! Well, in some ways she is an idol, but it's not quite like that. Ah—really, 'A Certain Scientific Railgun'—I introduced you to it before!"

"You did...? Well, I remember that those guys from the game research club watched that anime too..."

"Ha...can't be helped. Then, I will be extra lenient and tell you in a way that even an idiot can understand."

And so, the extra-lenient Kirino pressed a few buttons on her cell phone and showed me an anime.

http://www.nicovideo.jp/watch/1366183931

"This is Niconico Animation Website, or Nico Anime for short. This is the anime 'A Certain Scientific Railgun,' the main protagonist is Misaka Mikoto! How was that? Cool, wasn't it?"

"Well, she does look quite good, and seems like she has a strong body too."

"I know, right?"

At first look, she was about the same age as Kirino. Natural brown hair, a skirt with shorts underneath. On her legs were loose socks. Ah...what a unique fashion sense.

"Who is this girl with long black hair over here?"

"Ruiko Saten."

"What a cute girl—ouch! That hurts!"

Don't suddenly pull my face, you brat!

"You damn lolicon! Don't you always say that you have no interest in young girls?"

"I have no dirty thoughts, you are overthinking!"

"Hmph, who knows?"

"By the way, why does this girl have flowers on her head?"

"Ah? Who...knows?"

If someone as knowledgeable as Kirino didn't know...it really was mysterious.

"Well...anyway, I got it. In short, Nico Anime is going to make a 'My Little Sister Can't Be This Cute' and 'A Certain Scientific Railgun' crossover project, and you and Mikoto-san are going to join, is that right?"

"That's right! A live show on Niconico."

"Wow, isn't that amazing?"

"That's what I have been saying."

I see. So that's it.

"Since both of us are Dengeki Bunko heroines, I've always wanted to meet Mikoto-senpai at least once."

To make even Kirino respect someone so much, what was so special about her—

"She has 9972 cute little sisters! Mikoto is so amazing! Ehehe, if we become friends, she might introduce them to me!"

"So that's the reason!? You respect Mikoto-san only because of that?"

"She is cute, but her little sisters are cuter! With a cool hat, sexy number #10777 is so brave and so moe! And there is Misaka Worst, who looked so mean, yet she made my S-self want to take a peek at her. However, the cutest one that I want to meet most is Last Order!"

"That's enough! Stop! I get it, your excitement has been conveyed to me!"

Hey hey, you are way too close to me. Really, this girl...she acted like she hated me, but when she talked about something she liked she always ended up like this.

I forcefully stopped my excited little sister's hands and said:

"Looks like it's going to be an exciting job. That's good."

"Yes! I'm very happy!"

What a rare honest answer. My heart skipped a beat.

Right...as long as I could see this happily smiling expression on my little sister's face, I should thank that Misaka Mikoto girl.

"Then, do your best."

"Ha? What are you saying like it's none of your business? Of course you are going to take part in it too!"

"What—!"

What are you saaaaaaaaaayingggggggg—!

Chapter 2: My Little Sister Can't Have a Girls' Talk with a Teleporter

On the day of the broadcast, Kirino and I arrived at Dwango Company's headquarters in Nihonbashi.

"What a big and impressive building. I'm kind of nervous."

"Quit your whining. I heard that this company is going to move into a bigger building."

"For real...? They have so much money."

"There is a rumor that they receive financial support from Academy City."

Academy City...? What is that?

"Say, isn't Academy City the place where 'A Certain Scientific Railgun' took place? The same one that you are going to cooperate with? What does it have to do with Dwango Company?"

"Although it's only a rumor, Hiroyuki Nishimura [1] is an ex-student of Academy City."

"Really? He is an esper?!"

"Apparently not. He seems to be a magician with the same capacity as a Level 5. He had some connection to the dark side of Academy City or something like that."

"What exactly does that mean...?"

"It means when compared to secret organizations like ITEM, SCHOOL, and

BLOCK, Dwango or Niwango are not that much different."

—The only thing that was similar about them was that their names were written with four katakana!

The underground magical side sounded so dangerous. If you guys have read 'A Certain Magical Index,' you should be able to understand what this girl was saying.

"Although I'm not very sure myself about the relationship between Hiroyuki Nishimura and Dwango, after he left his position as Niwango's director, he hid somewhere inside Academy city and worked in secret. There is a theory that he planned to conquer the world with Niconico Anime, of course that's just a rumor."

"Oh...by the way, where did you hear that 'rumor' from?"

"Kuroneko."

—With just that, the credibility immediately dropped a lot. There was a good chance it was just Kuroneko's chuunibyou again.

Forget it. Whatever was fine. It was none of my business anyway.

"Hehe, if the rumor is true, then this invitation might contain some secrets~"

"Hey hey, just leave that stuff for combat specialists. Like Shakugan no Shana or something, it's still popular now."

"You can't just do that. Those senpai are all very busy, and they aren't very good with public speaking."

Yeah, that was right. Kirino was good at putting on a public face. She was probably the best heroine of Dengeki Bunko when it came to public speaking.

"You met Dokkoida at the Machi Asobi event in Tokushima, didn't you? Couldn't you call him?"

"He wouldn't make it here in time anyway. Prepare yourself!"

Kirino pointed her finger at me full of momentum.

"If something unexpected happens, you have to protect me."

"Fine fine, if that happens I will protect you with my life."

"Are, are you an idiot...?"

"...What are you getting angry for?"

We arrived at Dwango's building while talking.

There was a phone at the door, probably to call the receptionist.

When I was thinking that—

Suddenly, a twintailed girl appeared out of nowhere in the space in front of us.

"Wow!"

I unconsciously took a step back.

While Kirino's eyes shone:

"Could, could it be?!"

"Pleased to meet you, Kousaka Kirino-san, Kousaka Kyousuke-san. I'm Shirai Kuroko of Academy City's Judgment."

"I knew it! Teleporter! It's the first time I've seen a teleporter! So cool!"

On the way here, Kirino had told me:

Today, we are going to meet some 'espers,' or in other words, someone who can use so-called 'special powers.'

Although Kirino yelled at me to 'understand it better!' in a style similar to Kuroneko, I understood about 80-90%.

—So it was true.

"Hey Kirino. It's kind of rude to do that to someone you just met."

The Shirai Kuroko girl had a petite cute body, which usually caused Kirino to say 'be my little sister!' Thus I gave her a reminder with a hint of disapproval. But unexpectedly, Kirino did reflect on herself.

"Ah, sorry...I got carried away."

"It's fine. I'm happy to see you wanted to meet me that much. Us Level 4 or higher espers are even sometimes called monsters."

"How could they dare to call such a lovely girl such a rude thing!"

Kirino was angry for Kuroko.

That was who she was, after all.

"Thank you...your personality is exactly as Uiharu's investigation results said."

Wow, she was fascinated by it.

"Ah, right. Pleased to meet you, Shirai-san. My name is Kousaka Kirino. This is my elder brother, Kyousuke."

"Pleased to meet you. Please take care of me."

"Same here."

Although the way she spoke was quite unique, she was a reliable girl—

"Then, please follow me to the lounge."

—At least so I thought until then.

We took the elevator to the tenth floor.

"Wow ~ So something like that really happened!"

"That's right! Onee-sama's great deeds don't end there! Among 2.3 million espers in Academy City, she ranked third among the Level 5s! The Railgun of Tokiwadai Middle School, my onee-sama, Misaka Mikoto—!"

"Not only that, she is the pride of Dengeki Bunko, the strongest Electromaster Invincible Princess, right, Kuroko-chan?"

"That's right! Kirino-san...you really understand it clearly!"

"But, the truth is she loves cute stuffed animals, she likes to wear childish underwear, and all that, right! Squee~!"

"Yes yes, that's totally right! Kirino-san really understands my onee-sama! Squee ~!"

What a disgusting conversation.

Unconsciously, both of them began to refer to each other by name.

"So, how did Kirino-san know about the secret of Onee-sama's underwear?"

"That was part of the investigation by Tree Diagram to check into Railgun's underwear—how much do you know about that, Kuroko-chan?"

"Such a plan existed!? I have never heard of it!"

"Well, about that, you can read the one-shot 'Supplement to Dengeki Bunko MAGAZINE: Toradora! vs. Index,' and let's leave that aside for now..."

"Could it be you are going to stop there? Right when it's getting so interesting!"

"No, I wouldn't do that ~ to tell the truth, how I found out about Mikoto-san's underwear is thanks to—this!"

Tada—! Kirino showed Kuroko a picture on her cell phone.

"This..."

It was—"A Certain Scientific Railgun - Misaka Mikoto - A Certain Railgun in a

Maid Outfit" (1/6-scale PVC, prepainted, no assembly required).

"Lick ~! This is a figure of Onee-sama!"

"That's right!"

Kirino took a tissue to wipe the drool from Kuroko off of her cell phone—

"Haha, Kuroko-chan, do you get it now?"

"But, but Kirino-san! This figure...I got one too, but Onee-sama's underwear was covered by her shorts, and I could only get the vaguest glimpse of them...!"

"Hehehehehe..."

Kirino showed an arrogant smile.

While Kuroko was breathing hard, she kept asking:

"How could that be! Onee-sama's merchandise with visible underwear is forbidden by Dengeki Bunko and Dengeki Daioh! A figure with a visible underwear is something they wouldn't allow no matter what...no matter what..."

Kirino grinned—

"I took them off."

"What?"

Due to her shock, Kuroko almost fell backward.

"What, what did you just say!? If I didn't hear wrong, this is an openly defiant statement against not only the Dengeki Bunko heroine, but also against ASCII Media Works..."

"Well, actually, if you just take them off very carefully and very slowly, you can safely remove Mikoto's shorts~"

"!!!!"

In an instant, Kuroko seemed like she was struck by lightning.

Then her eyes shot open—

"Kirino-san! You, you! You, did you...did you take a picture?"

—No good, those two...Just where did they throw their girlish modesty!

Especially—Kuroko's twisted expression when she spoke about her 'onee-sama'...wasn't it exactly the same as when my little sister played eroge?!

This girl was definitely not normal! My pervert sensor was sounding an alarm.

"To be able to meet someone as interested in Onee-sama as me, it has been so long!"

"Me too, me too!"

'*Interested in onee-sama' huh?*

In such a short amount of time, their relationship had gotten better.

From the start, they only talked about 'Mikoto onee-sama.'

"We are about to arrive."

Kuroko pointed forward.

In the long corridor, looking to the side, there was a room that looked like a recording room.

Maybe that was where they were going to record the talk.

...I started to feel nervous, even though I wasn't going to take part in it.

"But, but..."

"Yes? What?"

"'Mikoto-onee-sama' is strong and cool, and has sexual feelings for you, I'm well aware of that now..."

"What a thorough understanding. And?"

"...However, after hearing that, I feel that she is a bit scary."

"Haha, so that's how it is. This was predicted in Uiharu's investigation too."

"What...?"

"Are you worried about letting a possibly somewhat-scary Onee-sama meet your super cute little sister?"

"What...! No, it's not like that!"

"But don't worry. Not only is Onee-sama strong, she is also very gentle. Your worry is unnecessary."

That, that is not what I wanted to say...! She didn't let me finish.

"Really, this guy is a siscon, there is no problem."

Kirino raised one of her fingers and said.

"And the reason why, is that Mikoto-san has the most common sense among Level 5 espers—right? Kuroko-chan~"

"....."

Hey, why don't you say anything now?

"...Well well, compared to the other Level 5s, that's not entirely inaccurate."

"You made me feel even more worried!"

Sweat appeared on Kuroko's forehead—

"No no, everything is fine. Even Onee-sama wouldn't shock an ordinary person —"

Before Kuroko could finish her words—

Clang Boom Bang

A roar suddenly sounded. Then from the corridor ahead, wind suddenly rushed

forward.

"What is going on!?"

"Did the door just explode?"

I immediately took a step forward and shielded my little sister.

Faced with the strong wind, I couldn't help but narrow my eyes.

Biri biri biri

This time, the blue light of electricity appeared.

And then—

"WHY! WHY ARE YOU HERE—!"

"Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh! Such misfortuneeeeeeeee—!"

Screaming, a boy with spiky hair ran toward us.

"Ah...is that okay?"

"Kirino. Let's go back home. This place is too dangerous."

Chapter 3: A Certain Electromaster's Life Counseling (Girls' Talk) Part 1

"What...there is someone here?"

The spiky haired boy finally noticed us, his eyes wandered around.

"Stop running!"

Biri biri biri biri biri

The tea-color haired girl emitted a violent electric shock and came at him from behind.

"Ahhhh! This idiot!"

The spiky haired boy turned around and raised his right hand at the electric shock.

It hit! —The high-energy spark that almost blinded us struck.

...A few seconds later, after the flash and the sound had calmed down, we noticed the unharmed spiky haired boy was standing in front of us, protecting us.

"Hoh—"

His right hand still raised forward, he let out a sigh of relief.

By the way, from behind me, Kirino had seen everything, she—

"Wow...is that the legendary 'Imagine Breaker'? To witness it from so close, I'm so lucky!"

This girl was really calm.

The spike head turned to us and asked worriedly:

"Ah, is anyone hurt?"

"Probably not...Are you okay?"

I asked Kirino, she nodded slightly.

"That's good then."

He grinned, then his expression turned serious.

"Leave it to me, you guys run ahead!"

"Wait for me!"

The tea-color haired girl interrupted him.

"Why are you making it sound like I'm the bad guy here?"

"You launched a one billion volt electrical shock at ordinary people, there is no excuse for that. No matter what, you are the bad guy here."

Yeah, this girl had an expression like she wanted to kick a vending machine.

"Someone who just took a one billion volt electrical shock directly is not an ordinary person at all! Look at yourself...!"

"Don't just biri biri and shoot electricity when you're angry! Any ordinary person would be terrified by now!"

"Kuh...!"

The electric current surrounding her body slowly disappeared.

"...Is this okay, then?"

"...Don't casually shock anyone again."

"Oh!"

A bunch of exceptionally strong shocks burst from her forehead.

Seemed like it was related to her mood.

That meant it was very easy to understand her mood. It would have been great if my little sister had the same ability.

"Hmph, of course I know."

She snorted, took a deep breath, then finally the electric current disappeared completely.

"Is this okay now?"

"...Hoh, it's safe now."

"Hey, don't make it sound like I'm something dangerous."

The tea-color haired girl lectured the spiky haired boy, who was breaking into cold sweat.

That kind of quarrel sounded like a lover's quarrel, thus I slowly lowered my guard.

Just like Kuroko said, maybe she wasn't that terrifying. Actually, this girl was probably the one we would talk to anyway—

"Mikoto-san."

Kirino greeted her.

"Yes?"

"You must be Misaka Mikoto-san. And you must be Kamijou Touma-san."

"Oh? You know us?"

The one Kirino called 'Kamijou Touma' was the spiky haired boy, and the 'Misaka Mikoto' girl went "Ah!" and pointed at Kirino:

"Could it be..."

"I'm Kousaka Kirino, today I'm going to have a live talk with you on Nico."

"So, so that's it!"

Mikoto showed a happy expression and patted her head:

"Wow, what wonderful timing. Ah, how should I put it...sorry that your first impression of me is like this..."

Then she dropped her head dejectedly.

She looked like a normal girl, I couldn't believe this was the same girl who threw electric shocks at random a few minutes earlier.

Mikoto stared at Kamijou:

"It's all your fault that they misunderstood."

"More like it let them know the truth about you..."

Biri biri biri—

"...I didn't say anything."

"Hmph ~~"

Mikoto put away her electric shock and turned to Kirino:

"Pleased to meet you, Kousaka Kirino-san. I'm Misaka Mikoto. Just now I was acting strange, please don't misunderstand."

"Ah, it's fine it's fine. I won't misunderstand."

"Ah?"

"I have read both 'A Certain Magical Index' and 'A Certain Scientific Railgun,' so I knew everything about Mikoto-san and Kamijou-san!"

Kirino hands clenched into fists, her eyes were sparking.

"Ah, about that..."

Mikoto seemed troubled because of Kirino's reaction. At that time, Kuroko interrupted:

"That's right, Onee-sama. I have just had a talk with Kirino-san about Onee-sama. Heheheh, she and I are evenly matched in this!"

"Ah, I see..."

Oh, she seemed interested now.

"Actually ~ I'm not that good ~"

Why are you getting embarrassed? It's not certain that Kuroko was praising you yet.

"...Ah, actually I have read 'My Little Sister Can't Be This Cute' too. It's a good novel. They sold it inside Academy City as well."

"Although I haven't read it, I heard from Uiharu that it's quite popular among Anti-Skill."

"Ah...I see."

"Uhm—"

Like a student with bad grades, Kamijou slowly raised his hand.

"...The Dengeki Bunko editor only called me here, they didn't explain anything to me at all..."

"Ah, you are still here, you ape?"

"If I could go back, do you think I would still be here?"

Kamijou scratched his cheek.

Not only was he almost shocked by his girlfriend, he was coldly mocked...somehow I felt a sense of intimacy toward him.

Mikoto thought and said:

"First, let's bring Kousaka-san to the waiting room."

"You say that, but...didn't Onee-sama destroy the waiting room just now...?"

"Ah..."

Mikoto slightly opened her mouth, as if saying 'yeah, that's right.'

"Oh right, you can call me Kirino. Can I call you Mikoto too?"

"That's fine. Everyone will be more relaxed this way."

"Alright ~"

"I have just checked with the receptionist. Onee-sama and Kirino-san, please go directly to the recording room."

Kuroko said as she hung up her cell phone.

"What about us?"

I asked.

"They are preparing a new waiting room, so please go there now. It's the innermost room, it should be easy to find."

"Alright, then let's go to the recording room."

"Okay! I have so many things to talk with Mikoto about!"

The two girls left while chatting away happily.

—Thus we males were left behind.

"....."

"....."

Both of us looked at each other in silence.

...Not good.

Kamijou muttered quietly:

"In the end, they didn't explain anything to me..."

I fully understood his feelings. Without any explanation, getting involved in something before I knew it...that was something I was familiar with.

"Then, let me explain."

"...That'd be a big help."

We introduced ourselves and walked toward the waiting room. While called a waiting room, it was more accurate to say it was just a room with a long table and some chairs. On a wall inside, there were Kirino's and Mikoto's POP [2] and an LCD, just like a live action.

"Oh, so this is Kirino's POP? It's good."

Ayase would certainly like to be there.

While Kamijou sat down near Mikoto's POP

"Just now, I only stared at Mikoto's POP, she immediately tried to shock me. Isn't that too much?"

"Ah...could it be that she was trying to hide her embarrassment?"

"...How could that be? I would die if her attack hits me directly, who could take that?"

True, normally that would be the case...but if my little sister had the same power as Mikoto, she would definitely do that.

I sat down in front of the TV with Kamijou.

Then I had a brief planning session for the next situation.

"I can understand why Misaka and your little sister were called here, but why did

they call me too...?"

"I don't get it myself..."

"You weren't dragged here because of your little sister, were you?"

"At first, it was like that, but after that I also received a 'come here' invitation from Dengeki Bunko myself."

"Kuh...I totally don't get it."

"Is there some reason that forces us to be here no matter what?"

Kamijou and I glanced at each other.

"...Somehow I have a bad feeling."

"What a coincidence, me too. Since the moment I stepped inside this building, I've felt a misfortune atmosphere following me everywhere."

Misfortune atmosphere? What was that?

If I had read 'A Certain Magical Index,' I would have already hightailed it away from him as far as possible.

Because when this guy said 'misfortune,' he wasn't joking.

But, what a pity! At that time, I was talking with another protagonist—Kamijou, so I lowered my guard. As fellow Dengeki Bunko protagonists, who also bore the same miserable fate, we developed some kind of camaraderie.

That was the beginning of our misfortune.

Since that incident, I took the following lesson to heart: It isn't a good thing to team up with someone who has the same attributes.

We chatted for a while.

"Say, Kamijou, what do you usually do?"

"Hospitalized."

"...What?"

"It is always like that—have a fight, get seriously injured, get sent to the hospital—that is my normal life."

Kamijou hung his shoulders, like he had just done something very tiresome.

"...Ah, ha..."

Not good, did I just step on a land mine?

That meant this guy was the protagonist of a fighting series.

"Especially in August and September, it was the worst. I felt like I had to fight new enemies regularly. The anime also focused on unexpected events in September, during which I had a series of desperate fights. My schedule was so messed up! The author overdid it!"

"You seem to have it hard."

"Ah, it's fine. However, before I came here, by coincidence I saw the 'My Little Sister Can't Be This Cute' anime, you were sent flying quite a distance with a roundhouse kick."

"...Ah, that is..."

"What a fearsome enemy. It reminds me of a saint who can use an angel's power. Who would be stronger between them...?"

"...No no. It's true that Ayase is the boss of the second volume, but she is not an esper or a magician or anything."

Although I don't know who he was comparing Ayase to, hearing the word 'angel' made me think of a super charming girl.

In that case, I would like to meet her someday.

"Back to the topic just now, well, although hospitalization is a bad thing, Kamijou-san should be popular with girls, right?"

I heard that in fighting novels, each time the protagonist fought, they would raise a flag, thus they frequently ended up with an uncountable harem. [3]. Since I'm not popular with girls, I should try asking for his advice.

But unexpectedly, Kamijou waved his hand:

"No no, totally not. Not a si—ingle bit popular!"

"For real?"

"Yes, for real. True, I frequently meet girls, but nothing like that happens between me and them! Otherwise, 'such misfortune' wouldn't be my catchphrase!"

Kamijou denied with all of his strength.

I asked him again just to confirm:

"But aren't you surrounded by a lot of girls? Even if you aren't popular, at least you live under the same roof with a beautiful girl, don't you?"

"...Yeah, I had a freeloader at my place. Index is the incarnation of appetite..."

His face darkened, he replied in anger.

Such a poor boy...He really fought hard side by side with so many beautiful girls, yet he didn't manage to raise a single flag.

"Forget it, I was able to save people because of my misfortune, so it's not an entirely bad thing."

Kamijou said with a proud smile. So cool! When I was thinking that—

"Ah—! But I want something to happen too! Even once is fine, I want something good to happen between me and a girl!"

—My admiration for him was instantly crushed.

Aha...well, this was normal for any high school student.

Did this guy really walk along the edge of death countless times?

"Ah—, you are so lucky to have such a cute little sister! Please introduce her to me!"

"I refuse."

"An instant answer?"

"I definitely will not give my little sister to someone with horrible luck like you."

"Kuh...what a righteous response...If I were you I would have said the same thing..."

Looking at the depressed Kamijou, I tried to cheer him up:

"But Mikoto-san likes you, right?"

Kamijou's eyebrows wrinkled.

"Are your eyes okay? Didn't you see our quarrel just now? How could you come to that conclusion?"

"In my eyes, you guys have a pretty good relationship."

How should I put it, they seemed like they were flirting.

"If she liked me, shouldn't she stop trying to greet me with an electric shock?"

Ah, you have a point here. However...based on my own experience...I feel like...it's not just that...

"So, what exactly is your relationship with her?"

"...Uhm, I'm not sure myself, it's quite complicated."

Kamijou thought about it and said:

"I think that she is as cool as a boy, and she is someone reliable."

"...Even if I misunderstood, you must never, ever tell her that!"

In Mikoto's ears, those words would have had different meaning.

"Why not?"

Kamijou showed a confused look.

This...seemed like he had a hard time in front of him.

"About that TV, what do you think it is for?"

Kamijou pointed at the LCD TV in the room. It looked like something to view a live Nico program.

"Without a doubt, I bet we could use that to see Kirino and Mikoto's talk."

"I see. However...will they know that we are looking at them?"

"...I'm not sure."

If they didn't, what would we do?

"...Let's forget it."

"Agreed."

It wasn't something we could control anymore.

We continued chatting for a while, while I was asking Kamijou about 'how a boy living alone cooks for himself,' a sound came from the TV—

"The next program is 'My Little Sister' X 'Railgun' Crossover – Girls' Talk! The program guests are two of Dengeki Bunko's prided super-popular heroines, Misaka Mikoto-san and Kousaka Kirino-san! They will have a live talk right now!"

"It's starting!"

"Ha ~~ the bad feeling is getting closer, but I don't have a choice."

"Yeah."

We lifelessly looked at the TV.

"Please come in ~~ ♪"

And then, my little sister and Misaka Mikoto's live talk started.

"Good morning everyone, I'm Kousaka Kirino!"

"Good morning, everyone...I'm Misaka Mikoto."

"Please take care of me today, Mikoto-san!"

"Please take care of me too...you seem to be familiar with this stuff."

"You could say that, I have taken part in something similar a few times before. Mikoto-san only needs about ten shows to get used to it."

"No no, I'm not planning to get into so many shows."

It looked like they were having a small talk.

The moderator was waiting...Kirino, you should talk about the main topic now.

Their relationship had gotten better in such a short time. Compared to before, they talked with each other more naturally now.

"Then, today two of Dengeki Bunko's prided beautiful girls are going to have a talk. The program is starting now!"

"Beautiful girls...are they talking about us?"

"That is the truth, isn't it?"

"Ah, although it's the truth..."

Seeing that, both Kamijou and I whispered to each other.

"What an annoying combination."

"Yeah."

On the other side of the screen, Mikoto said:

"So, what are we going to talk about?"

"Directly to the main topic. Of course, we are going to talk about love!"

"...Hah?"

"That's what's written in the title, right? 'Dengeki Bunko Girls's Talk.' A girls's talk is, without a doubt, about love! So let's talk about love!"

"About love? Are you...with me?"

"No no ~"

Kirino pointed at Mikoto—

"Mikoto-san will talk with me about love."

—Then she pointed to herself.

Mikoto's eyes followed Kirino's finger, then, as if suddenly startled, her face started twitching.

"Haaaaaaa—? I, I, I I I...I'm going to talk with you about love!?"

"Yes. Mikoto-san, do you have someone you like?"

"————————————!"

Mikoto's entire face and her ears reddened.

What a cute and clear reaction. Even someone as dense as me understood with just a glance.

".....Hey, Kamijou?"

As 'the one Mikoto likes,' what would his reaction be? I turned to him—

"Ha—so Mikoto has someone she likes!"

".....You, you.....!"

You are so dense that even I am surprised! You should say goodbye to your love life!

On the other side of the TV, Kirino and Mikoto kept talking.

"Mikoto-san, you should admit it. Don't use tsundere words to deceive me, I have read the entire book!"

"Kuh...! About that...let's say that I have 'someone I'm interested in'!"

"What 'let's say', you clearly have one."

"'Let's say'!"

Mikoto slammed on the table.

Biri biri biri...electric shocks began to appear

"Don't do that! I'm starting to feel tingling! —Alright, alright, then 'let's say.' Is that okay now?"

"Even if I have 'someone I'm interested in'...why do you look at me with such condescending eyes...? Aren't we supposed to be equal in a talk about love?"

Facing Mikoto's question, Kirino calmly answered without changing her expression.

"Ah? Maybe because I'm more proficient in love?"

"What?"

"Ah ~ could it be ~ you feel that you should be more proficient? If that is the case, allow me to apologize ~"

What are you doing, teasing her like that, brat!

Sure enough, my little sister didn't have the personality to get along with strangers.

Despite that Mikoto was emitting shocks, her face relaxed. She said,

"Ah—it's fine even if you don't apologize. But Kirino, no matter if it's about fighting or love, I'm better than you."

Although it is true in the fighting aspect...

"Among Dengeki Bunko's heroines, I'm your senpai. Wouldn't it be better if I was the one giving you advice for love?"

"No no, I'd rather ask an elementary-school kid for love advice than Mikoto-senpai."

"You...!"

Although it's true, you shouldn't say it out loud, Kirino.

You were facing an esper who could turn you into ash in the blink of an eye, yet you were calmly quarreling with her. Unbelievable.

"...You say that...does that mean you have much love experience?"

"That's for sure. We have been living together for 15 years."

"!!!!"

"We had a confession long long ago—about at the end of volume 2 or something like that."

"So soon...!"

"During volume 3, we even entered a love hotel together ♪"

"Love hotel .....!!!!!????"

Mikoto turned stiff, she barely managed to ask:

"...Is, is that true?"

"It's true. If I lied here, that would mean I deceived the audience, right?"

Saying that, Kirino covered her lips with her fingertips and made a 'shhh—' action toward the camera, signaling the audience to be quiet.

Since Mikoto hadn't read our story, this girl could say whatever she wanted!

However, what she said was completely true...

"I have only 12 volumes, but it has developed to this stage. While you have 22 volumes, 2 gaiden books, 7 New Testament volumes, 1 additional side story book, 3 anime seasons, 8 new gaiden volumes. Yet, where are you now?"

Her entire face reddened, Mikoto trembled and gathered her courage to reply:

"We had first contact in volume 1 of the Railgun series!"

"Liar. You only tried to shock him."

"We had an overseas trip! Hawaii!"

"That was just a terrorist attack, wasn't it?"

"!!!!!"

"You didn't even manage to give him the ring, did you?"

"!!!!!!!!!"

"Still want to continue?"

"....."

She didn't seem like she would let it go.

".....Yes, there is something!"

On the verge of utter depression, Mikoto suddenly came back to life.

"Really?"

"Yes, really!"

"Then I will ask a question. The most recent chance you had to speak with him, did you have a good talk?"

"...About that...time..."

"What were you doing at that time, Mikoto-san?"

Sweat appeared on Mikoto's forehead.

"...About that...we fought together against a Saint..."

"Ha...so that's what you meant..."

"Why did you sigh!? What do you mean by that!?"

Mikoto couldn't take it anymore, she stood up and pointed her finger at Kirino.

Kirino returned an arrogant look:

"Actually, back then Mikoto-san was cool. The decisive battle scenes and victory lines were both awesome. Yet..."

"Yet?"

"You still weren't able to convey your feelings to him."

"Kuh...!"

Mikoto gritted her teeth. Looked like Kirino hit the bullseye.

"But even just counting 'A Certain Magical Index' there are 36 volumes, up until now, what have you done?"

"Don't say it like a manager speaking to a jobless man!"

Although you seem great when lecturing others, Kirino, you also don't have the right to do that.

"So, this is a bit of my advice..."

Kirino pointed at Mikoto's legs.

"Mikoto-san, how long are you going to keep wearing loose socks? They're way too outdated!"

"Don't speak about that now————————!!!!!"

Biribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiri——!!

The sounds of electric shocks appeared, then the TV screen distorted.

Seeing the black TV screen, Kamijou muttered:

"...She stepped on Misaka's land mine..."

Later, I was informed that during winter, they had dark blue uniform socks.

A long series surely was not an easy work.

When the image on the TV screen came back, we saw Mikoto standing, gasping for air, and the paled Kirino.

"Ha...ha...ha..."

"So dangerous...I thought that I was about to die..."

They were sitting face to face, the chairs and the table showed signs of damage, some places had been destroyed.

"I understand what you meant. I admit that in this aspect, I'm not very good. So..."

"So?"

"—I want to have a life counseling session with you."

Unexpectedly, those were the same words that Kirino first spoke to me long ago.

Unconsciously, Kirino acted like me, she raised her head, straightened her chest and announced—

"Mikoto-san, leave it to me!"

And that is the main topic...

Chapter 4: A Certain Electromaster's Life Counseling (Girls' Talk) Part 2

"As you know, my love has made no progress at all. What should I do...?"

"Well, at least you are honest now."

Mikoto pouted:

"You dare say that after provoking me...but this guy totally doesn't look at me."

"Ha, I see—I know how you feel."

"You know?"

"Nothing, just talking to myself. Okay, 'what should I do to make some progress in my love' is the problem right? Let me think—"

Kirino seemed like she had an idea.

"How about trying the life counseling solution?"

"Ah...please explain?"

"Kamijou...no, no, the one that Mikoto-san likes is someone who will save anyone who is in trouble, right? Then, as long as Mikoto-san says she is in trouble and needs his help, you will get many chances to meet him."

"I see. So that's it...but, but, you said life counseling session...how should I start it...?"

But Mikoto's entire face was red, she looked down and rubbed her fingers together.

Seeing that, Kirino slightly closed one eye and laughed:

"Mikoto-san. Just do as I say—okay?"

"Yes yes."

"First, sneak into his room in the middle of the night."

"Wait for me to get a pen...Middle of the night, sneak in...got it..."

It sounds like a crime already! Is that really okay?

"No problem with that? —Then, while he is sleeping, climb on top of him."

"Right right...climb on top of him...got it..."

"Then *slap* and give him a slap, tell him 'I want to ask you for a life counseling!'"

"...Can this really succeed?"

"It definitely will! I have personally tried it myself!"

Kirino said full of confidence.

...On the other hand, I couldn't say anything about it.

"A slap...slap huh."

Mikoto muttered something, raised her right hand above her head, then—

"Like this?"

Biribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiri!

Just a single 'slap' had an incredible destructive power.

Seeing that, Kirino yelled:

"What is that just now? Giga break or something?"

"Ah?"

"What ah! What is with your definition of 'slap'? Why do you have to add an electric shock...If he was hit with that, there wouldn't be anything left of Kamijou-san!"

"No, don't worry. Unless I add this, there wouldn't be any effect on that guy..."

"That is not the problem! He would be sleeping at that time! Probably..."

...Just like that? It was clear that 'he' was Kamijou.

I turned to him and saw him trembling, his face pale.

"...Hey, Kousaka-san...why did the love story of Misaka turn into how to assassinate me?"

"....."

I think this guy deserved some more anxiety.

If they continue, they might expose who the one Mikoto likes is!

—I even thought.

"Say, just now, when you blocked Mikoto's electric shock, could it be that you are a negater?"

"Ah, my ability is Imagine Breaker, my right hand can negate super powers as soon as I touch them."

But in Academy City, during System Scan, I was judged to be a Level 0— Kamijou added.

"Ah...so Kamijou's ability...is just that?"

"Yes? Yeah, just that."

"You don't have other abilities like other guys, like shooting lasers, teleporting, or something?"

"Nope. By the way, even recovery magic and luck would be negated too, even when I don't intend to."

Clang clang

I moved my chair away from Kamijou.

"Hey—why are you suddenly moving away from me?"

"Because...it sounds like I will meet misfortune as long as I stay near you. I can't believe that you could use that...ability of yours to fight a lot of enemies."

"Kousaka, were you about to say my only ability is 'useless'?"

"No no, I never said anything ~"

Even among the world of espers, his ability still had a role to play, so calling it useless didn't seem right. However, for someone who often gets into fights to be unable to receive recovery magic, this was a fatal flaw.

"Ah...so that's why every time you fight, you end up in the hospital..."

Kamijou nodded.

Since I was interested, I asked:

"Why do you fight so hard?"

"Huh? What are you saying?"

Kamijou simply replied—

"As long as there is a reason to fight, no matter how weak someone is, they can gather their courage to fight!"

It didn't matter if that person was a Level 5 or a Level 0.

You didn't fight because you had a chance to win.

That was how he fought.

"—Ha, I see."

This guy really could tell a joke.

Really...whoever liked this guy was going to have a hard time, even as someone who just met him today, I almost raised a flag here.

I smiled wryly and turned to the TV.

Kirino, who had taken the love advice request from Mikoto, was coming up with an unbelievable solution.

"—That's why, Mikoto-san, try confessing ♪"

"...What!?"

In an instant, countless words appeared on the screen.

They all said 'Wowowoww!', "Ahhhhhhh!", "Kiririn, GJ!!"

The number of viewers was 100,000 people, but the number kept rising.

"Con-confess?"

"Yes. You have to do it sooner or later anyway, right?"

"That, that's true...but..."

As expected of a popular heroine, the blushing Mikoto was super cute. Right now, the destructive power coming from her was beginning to shake even someone who was totally devoted like me.

Kirino grinned and gave Mikoto the final blow.

"Look at the screen. Everyone is waiting for your confession ~"

"That, that's because you said something weird!"

"That's why I said it's only practice. Not only wouldn't you fail at the real confession, the audience would be happy too, everyone would be happy!"

"Oh ~"

Mikoto closed her eyes, her body trembling slightly.

The excited audience also cheered 'Confess! Confess!' creating a determined atmosphere.

Even I was amazed at this.

At the same time, a voice came from outside of the screen—

"AAAAAAAAA! I'm so jealous, so envious, I hate him so much! Is Onee-sama going to confess to this ape! As Onee-sama's lover, I should stop this immediately! But! But!!!! I also want to see Onee-sama like this! I want to hear Onee-sama's confession...Oh! AAAAAAA!!! I! I! I'm such a useless lover ————————!!!!"

...Kuroko...heard everything...

While Kuroko was being depressed, it looked like Mikoto had also made a choice.

She stood up, took a deep breath, and said firmly:

"I got it! I will do it!"

"That's good!"

Kirino also stood up and clapped her hands on Mikoto's.

"Mikoto-san, first, try to say 'like.' Pretend like I'm Kamijou-san!"

You no longer need to keep hiding anymore, right?

Forget it, they probably thought that Kamijou wasn't watching this show.

Mikoto cleared her throat.

"Then, I'm starting..."

She clenched her fists, yelling with all of her strength:

"Youuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu!!!! How dare youuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu!!"

Biribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiribiri——!

"Stop————————!"

Kirino screamed at the top of her lungs.

"Ah, what?"

"Stop stop! That's my line! What just happened! What exactly just happened!?"

Facing Kirino's questions, Mikoto replied in a cute tone:

"What—isn't that a confession?"

"How come it sounded like you just met your Sisters' nemesis!? It sounded like a scream from the Sisters act!"

The electric current flashed, just like a legendary super soldier.

She probably was going to say 'how dare you make me like you' next.

"Not that kind of scary confession! As expected, it's really necessary to practice!"

What Kirino said was also what I thought.

Mikoto looked unhappy, she muttered:

"Then, what should I do ~"

"You don't have to yell, just say it in a normal tone. Best case, use a tone with a hint of embarrassment to convey your feelings."

"...You...you can do that?"

"Of course! If you don't believe it, read volume 2 of 'My Little Sister'!"

...Please allow me to make a no comment expression.

"So, just now was no good."

"Once more. Let me help you pick your words."

"Okay..."

Mikoto thought about it and slowly shook her head.

"...Sorry, but not now. I want to convey my feelings, how could I use others' words?"

"...I see. You are right."

"I don't have to make it more complicated, I should just tell him my feelings with my natural words."

Saying that, Mikoto smiled.

"Even if I get rejected, it can't be helped."

—*Ah, I see.*

That's why Kirino admired her. That's why Kuroko obsessed over her.

Just as Kamijou said, without the slightest flaw.

Not only was Misaka Mikoto a strong and cute girl, she had manly decisiveness.

"I see."

Kirino repeated her words.

Clearly, things didn't happen as she expected, but my little sister smiled too.

So...

Seeing that, what would Kamijou's reaction be? I turned to him——

Zhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz!

Suddenly, the alarm rang.

"!"

Kamijou's expression instantly changed.

"This is—"

His lazy expression just now had been replaced with a serious look.

He firmly fixed his eyes on the screen.

Almost at the same time, from the TV came a 'Niconico Anime' emotionless sound. Although that sound was very loud, it didn't contain any feeling.

Next, we heard the sound of a 'flute.'

"Is this some kind of a joke?"

That was my first reaction upon hearing that weird flute.

On the other side of the screen, Kirino and the others were having similar reactions.

However, this optimism soon disappeared.

"Ugh—!"

My head hurt just from listening to this.

"What...is going on!?"

It definitely wasn't good to continue listening to it!

I immediately made my judgment and cut off the TV's power, but it didn't stop.

Even worse, the sound started ringing everywhere in the building.

"Hey! What the heck is going on!?"

"A special type of speaker?"

On the screen, the show had turned into a mess.

Everyone covered their ears with a painful expression.

—Kirino too.

"Hey hey hey hey! Don't tell me...?"

—*This invitation might contain some secrets.*

"Kirino's joke became real...?"

While I was thinking, the pain in my head increased.

Kamijou shouted:

"This sound...is this like Vento of the Front's 'Divine Punishment'...?" [4]

"You know it, Kamijou?"

"I have fought with a magician who used similar magic before, but there is some difference. Just now the sound was real, which meant it's not magic, but a mental attack."

In other words, brainwashing or something. What a horrible power!

At that time, I couldn't take it anymore and dropped to my knees. Then—

"I will break this illusion!"

A clear breaking sound rang in my head.

The pain disappeared immediately.

"Ah?"

I looked up and saw Kamijou's right hand on my head.

'*Imagine Breaker'—can negate any special power.*

"I finally understand why Dengeki Bunko's manager called me here. They

already predicted that something like this would happen."

Kamijou muttered to himself.

He moved his right hand away, looked at me and said:

"I'm not entirely sure, but it looks like we are in big trouble. Let's go check on Misaka and the others."

"I'm with you!"

The moment I stepped inside this building, I had made a promise to my little sister.

There is no way I could just wait here.

Besides—if I left that guy's side, my head might hurt again!

I made my declaration. Hearing that, Kamijou's eyes widened, then he smiled like a kid.

"What is that? It's not what you wanted to say, right?"

"...Oh."

It was as if he could see through me. But he clearly wasn't some telepath.

"Let's go!"

"Yeah!"

We ran toward the recording room.

When we arrived at the recording room—

"Don't underestimate me!!!"

Following the scream were numerous electric shocks.

Standing in the middle of the recording room was Mikoto, surrounded by electricity.

The shock didn't damage any of the recording machines.

However, the strange sound had stopped.

"—It should be fine now. Are you okay, Kirino?"

"I'm fine...but, what did you just do?"

"Destroy the source of the sound through the network—What awful luck, I'm so sick of these kinds of despicable abilities."

Mikoto said, "It shouldn't be a problem anymore" and brushed her hair.

"You've had a bad experience with it."

Kirino said that.

Mikoto narrowed her eyes, answering:

"Really, as the the only one who understands my situation, you aren't easy to deal with. The next time we meet, I will finish reading your story, so prepare yourself!"

"Alright, I'm looking forward to it ~~"

They exchanged a meaningful glance—

"Then I'm going to pick up Hiroyuki [5]—I will leave things here to you."

"—Yeah, leave it to me. I will make a suitable ending for it."

They smiled at each other.

"Kuroko!"

Calling to her friend, Mikoto rushed outside. I could hear Kuroko reply 'Yes, Onee-sama!'

Seeing that they left, Kamijou said:

"I should go too. Make sure to protect your little sister!"

"I know that without you telling me!"

I smiled wryly and watched as Kamijou left.

Although I didn't know their story.

They were doing just fine in their own way.

I returned my eyes to my little sister.

Our eyes met.

"_____"

And so—

I also kept doing things in my own way.

Together with Kirino.

I smiled at my little sister.

—I'm fine, don't worry!

Then I slightly nodded.

—Do your best!

"Hmph—!"

—I thought I heard 'Are you an idiot?!'

Kirino looked away and turned to the staff, saying:

"What now? Are we still on air? Ah, this is fine then."

What would Kirino do when Mikoto asked her to take care of things here?

"So, at Mikoto-san's request, the show is now resuming. Although the details aren't clear, it doesn't matter anymore. Because Mikoto-san has already left."

She calmly resumed the normal show.

A mess had just happened, yet she avoided it like it was nothing. So awesome. I praised her in my heart.

Just as usual, Kirino did her job, while I protected her by her side.

That was that I thought.

My little sister can't be this cute.

Translator's Notes

1. ↑ 2ch founder and manager, one of Niconico anime's directors
2. ↑ point of purchase
3. ↑ Touma's harem includes but is not limited to: Index, Mikoto Misaka, Komoe Tsukuyomi, Aisa Himegami, Kaori Kanzaki, Orsola Aquinas, Agnese Sanctis, Seiri Fukiyose, at least some (if not most, or even all) of the 9,968 Misaka Imoutos, and Itsuwa. And since volume 20, Lessar is on it too. Volume 2 of New Testament has some very heavy hinting from Seria Kumokawa, considering she went from genius to "blankly sitting around like an idiot" during his disappearance. In the same volume, Touma finally makes his glorious return, making the papers and all, greeted by all of his female acquaintances in Academy City including: Hyouka, Seria, Fukiyose, Komoe, Aisa, and AWAKI. Mikoto ends up complaining about the guy to girl ratio and yells at them to stop taking her scenes. So it's 9,985, not really uncountable. Shokuhou Misaki may also be a candidate (New Testament Vol. 7).
4. ↑ Editor: (!!ToAru spoilers!!) See | EN ToAru Wiki: Vento's Divine Punishmentfor more.
5. ↑ Nishimura Hiroyuki, founder and a former administrator of the most accessed Japanese message board site 2channel. In Japan, he is usually known by his given name, Hiroyuki.